

## Visit Report on Earthquake and Tsunami Crisis Zone in Iwate Prefecture

March 11, 2011, quite big earthquake attacked all east coast Japan with magnitude 9, followed by tremendous tsunami, and Fukushima nuclear plant incident. On July 22 and 24, about 80 persons visited north shore and south shore lines by two buses, which was planned by OEAJ with JCRE main supporting organization. Iwate prefecture fully supported this observation. The following is a report with several pictures.

### 2. 1 North shoreline in Iwate Prefecture

On July 22, we started Morioka Station by bus at 13:00, and arrived at Kuji city at 15:30. Where, we heard explanation of damage status. In Kuji city with population 36,875, it was death 4, unconfirmed 2, housing destroy 65, whose number was quite little compared with other zones, while 500 people worked close to shoreline in addition to the resident close to shoreline. The reason why was (1) routine drill performed big effect resulting quick escaping from the risky place, and (2) to have enabled tsunami arrival to be late by means of double installed wave protection walls though these were hard damaged and destroyed a lot. Also, geography was merit such as three rivers into the city. The height of tsunami was 8.6m. All fishery boats were gone away.



Participants, listening Explanation by municipal officer in Kuji City

Then, we moved to Moda-mura and arrived at 16:00 there. Several town officers waited us. With 4,632 population, damage were death 38, unconfirmed 17, destroyed houses 309. The town took a big damage by more than 12m height tsunami over walls for wave protection. Wall was destroyed over 100m. The mound of railway was completely missing together with rails. Broken pine tree seems crying toward blue sky. We arrived at Morioka station at 20:00.



Noda-Mura, town was diminished behind the debris mountain



Broken pine tree crys toward the sky, in place of lovely dog

### 2. 2 Southern side of shoreline in Iwate prefecture

On July 24, today is Sunday. We started Morioka station at 08:30, and moved to Kamaishi city. In the rest place of the way, we found out 10kW Magnum wind turbine, which is very unique design.

At 11:30, we arrived at Kamaishi, and took explanation from municipal officers. The damage was death 869, unconfirmed 361, house destroy 3,723, and still 1,354 persons are living in school gyms and equivalent. We looked at a lot of debris and collided unmoved tankers in the wharf. According to the municipal officer, 10 towns adjacent to Kamaishi city had diminished by tsunami, bringing away both people, houses, everything. Explained was the damage caused by 10% earthquake and 90% tsunami. The ground level sank 60-100cm.



Kamaishi city, a lot of such a scenery observed alongside road

At 12:30, we moved toward Rikuzen Takada city. We saw the five stage mansion which was damaged completely up to the four stage and slightly only fifth stage kept the shape as it was. As the bus goes to the south, we looked at same scenery alongside the shoreline road, a lot of debris mountains, broken houses, broken bridge, infinite wide and wild plains.



Ohfunato city, fifth stage mansion completely damaged upto 4th floor

At 14:15, we arrived at Rikuzen Takada city, and we could ride out from bus. It was a miserable scenery. The center of city had completely diminished by the tsunami. The 70,000 pine trees planted more than during 100 years also completely gone except only one tree. By means of ground sinking, sea water is still there like lake. Instant death 1,524, unconfirmed where gone 579, injured personnel impossible counting, still evacuated life in gym etc 1,917 in 50 places. A bunch of broken vehicle was piled and collected in the wild plain.



Center of Rikuzen Takada city, now wild plain and lake with sea water



Rikuzen Takada city, miserable situation at indoor

We sincerely thought we must do something on behalf of damaged persons suffered by natural tremendous disaster. With such a sincere impression, we arrived at Morioka station at 17:00.